

Application No. 09/724,288
Amendment dated October 4, 2004
Reply to Office Action of May 3, 2004.

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-49 (Canceled)

Claim 50. (Previously Presented) A method of screening an antibody for activity in clearing a tissue sample, comprising

combining the tissue sample, the antibody and phagocytic cells bearing Fc receptors in a medium in vitro;

monitoring the amount of the tissue sample remaining in the medium, a reduction in amount of tissue sample indicating the antibody has clearing activity against the tissue sample.

Claims 51-68 (Canceled)

Claim 69. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, wherein the amount of the tissue sample remaining is monitored by monitoring the amount of an antigen associated with the tissue sample remaining in the medium.

Claim 70. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, wherein the combining comprises combining the tissue sample and the antibody before adding the phagocytic cells bearing Fc receptors.

Claims 71-72 (Canceled)

Claim 73. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, wherein the tissue sample comprises an amyloid deposit.

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Claim 74. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 73, wherein the tissue sample is from the brain of an Alzheimer's disease patient or a mammal animal having Alzheimer's pathology.

Claim 75. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, wherein the antigen is A β .

Claim 76. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, wherein the phagocytic cells are microglial cells.

Claim 77. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, wherein the tissue sample is selected from the group consisting of a cancerous tissue sample, a virally infected tissue sample, a tissue sample comprising inflammatory cells, a nonmalignant abnormal cell growth, and a tissue sample comprising an abnormal extracellular matrix.

Claim 78. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, wherein the monitoring is performed microscopically.

Claim 79. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

Claim 80. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 79, wherein the antibody binds to an epitope within amino acid residues 1-7 of A β .

Claim 81. (Previously Presented) A method of screening an antibody for activity in clearing an isolated biological entity, comprising

combining the isolated biological entity, the antibody, and phagocytic cells bearing Fc receptors in a medium in vitro, wherein the isolated biological entity is selected from the group consisting of A β , antigens of pathological microorganisms, viruses, proteoglycans, tumor antigens, and adhesion molecules;

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monitoring the amount of the isolated biological entity remaining in the medium, a reduction in amount of isolated biological entity indicating the antibody has clearing activity against the isolated biological entity.

Claim 82. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 81, wherein the combining comprises combining the isolated biological entity and the antibody before adding the phagocytic cells bearing Fc receptors.

Claim 83. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 81, wherein the monitoring is performed microscopically.

Claim 84. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 81, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

Claim 85. (Previously Presented) The screening method of claim 81, wherein the isolated biological entity is an antigen of a pathological microorganism.

Claims 86. (Previously Presented) The screening method of claim 85, wherein the antigen is a viral antigen.

Claim 87. (Previously Presented) A method of screening an antibody for activity in clearing a biological entity physically associated with an antigen, comprising

combining the biological entity physically associated with an antigen, the antibody, and phagocytic cells bearing Fc receptors in a medium *in vitro*, wherein the biological entity is a tissue sample selected from the group consisting of a cancerous tissue sample, a tissue sample infected with a pathogenic microorganism, a tissue sample comprising inflammatory cells, a nonmalignant abnormal cell growth, scar tissue, and a tissue sample comprising an abnormal extracellular matrix;

monitoring the amount of the tissue sample and/or the amount of antigen remaining in the medium, a reduction in amount of the tissue sample entity and/or antigen

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remaining in the medium indicating the antibody has clearing activity against the biological entity and/or the antigen in conjunction with the phagocytic cells.

Claim 88. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 87, wherein the monitoring is performed microscopically.

Claim 89. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 87, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

Claim 90. (Withdrawn) A method of screening an antibody for activity in clearing an amyloid deposit, comprising

combining a tissue sample comprising amyloid deposits, the antibody, and phagocytic cells bearing Fc receptors in a medium in vitro;

monitoring the amount of amyloid deposits remaining in the medium, a reduction in amount of amyloid deposits indicating the antibody has clearing activity against the amyloid deposits.

Claim 91. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 90, wherein the amount of amyloid deposits remaining is monitored by monitoring the amount of an antigen associated with the amyloid deposits remaining in the medium.

Claim 92. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 90, wherein the combining comprises combining the tissue sample and the antibody before adding the phagocytic cells bearing Fc receptors.

Claim 93. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 90, wherein the tissue sample is from the brain of an Alzheimer's disease patient or a mammal animal having Alzheimer's pathology.

Claim 94. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 90, wherein the antigen is A β .

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Claim 95. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 90, wherein the phagocytic cells are microglial cells.

Claim 96. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 90, wherein the monitoring is performed microscopically.

Claim 97. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 90, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

Claim 98. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 75, wherein the antibody binds to an epitope within amino acid residues 1-7 of A β .

Claim 99. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 87, wherein the tissue sample comprises an amyloid deposit.

Claim 100. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 99, wherein the tissue sample is from the brain of an Alzheimer's disease patient or a mammal animal having Alzheimer's pathology.